

ABSTRACT

In this power converter, a first capacitor (C1) for stepping down of voltage, a first diode (D1) for half-wave rectification, and a second capacitor (C2) for smoothing are interposed between first and second input connections (T1, T2) for input of alternating current; and a second diode (D2) for discharge of the first capacitor (C1) is interposed between the second input connection (T2) and an input end of the first diode (D1). Alternating current supplied from an AC power supply (S) is divided (stepped down) by the first and second capacitors (C1, C2), rectified to direct current by the first diode (D1), smoothed by the second capacitor C2, and supplied, as an output voltage defined by Zener diodes (ZD1 to ZD4), to the load side through the first and second output connections (T3, T4).